MEDIA RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

'Blinky Bill is On The Loose'
written by Robert Kimber with original music by Michael Mills

Produced by Koala Life & Theatre Bugs

The world premiere of a new musical theatre production for families based on the original Blinky Bill stories written by Dorothy Wall.

Koala Life and Theatre Bugs are proud to announce the creation of a new Adelaide based professional children's theatre company called **KoBugs Theatre Company.** The primary objective of **KoBugs Theatre Company** will be a clear focus on the role we all play in protecting our Aussie wildlife and our natural environment. Our first project, **Blinky Bill is On The Loose**, represents a

unique collaboration between an experienced team of professional theatrical artists, scientists and environmental organisations to create a musical theatre production for families with children aged 4 –12 years. The production playfully explores these important environmental issues through the eyes of Dorothy Wall's truly iconic and much loved Koala, Blinky Bill.

CEO of Koala Life, Professor Chris Daniels says, *"We strongly believe that science and the arts working together can both entertain and help to make the world a better place. Working with Michael Eustice, the Managing Director of Theatre Bugs, and creating KoBugs Theatre Company is a key part of our organisational strategy. We aim to communicate these important concerns to a broader audience in a way which brings the message to life both informatively and entertainingly."*

We are absolutely thrilled with this completely South Australian production. The delightfully playful script for **Blinky Bill is on The Loose** has been written by the very experienced playwright and theatre academic, Dr Robert Kimber. The fabulous music has been created by well-known Adelaide theatrical producer and performer, Michael Mills (AKA – Professor Flint, the world's only singing, Scottish palaeontologist) from Heapsgood Productions. The show also boasts a cast of highly skilled and experienced professional, Adelaide actors who may be grown up in years, but are still very much children at heart.

The World Premiere of **Blinky Bill is on The Loose** will be staged outdoors at Cleland Wildlife Park on Friday March 12th and will formally launch the renamed and refocused **Koala Life** (formerly known as the International Koala Centre of Excellence). Koala Life is a charitable foundation devoted to supporting research into Koalas and their forest habitat.

Following the formal launch at Cleland Wildlife Park, **Blinky Bill is on The Loose** will transfer for a full season at the 2021 Adelaide Fringe in the Amphitheatre at the Adelaide Botanic Gardens. This season will be presented as part of the highly regarded *Hartstone-Kitney Productions* Adelaide Fringe season.

Koala Life and Theatre Bugs gratefully acknowledge the generosity of the following sponsors who have made the creation of KoBugs Theatre Company and *Blinky Bill is On The Loose* possible.

- Inspiring South Australia
- Green Adelaide
- The Royal Commonwealth Society
- Axiom Publishing
- Seymour College
- Annesley College

Directed by **Michael Eustice,** Choreography by **Carol Wellman Kelly** and featuring outstanding Adelaide based professional actors **Chloe Bremner, Jamie Hornsby, Claire McEcoy** and **David Salter.**

When: OFFICIAL KOALA LIFE LAUNCH EVENT**:** Friday March 12th Invitation Only Event)

ADELAIDE FRINGE SEASON: Saturday March 13th to Sunday March 21st at 6.40pm.

Where: OFFICIAL KOALA LIFE LAUNCH EVENT**:** Cleland Wildlife Park

ADELAIDE FRINGE SEASON: The AmphiTheatre - Black Box Theatres @ Adelaide Botanic Gardens

Tickets: $28.00 Full / $19.00 Concession / $80 Family (4)

Purchase tickets online at www.adelaidefringe.com.au or call 8332 1228. Tickets at the door subject to availability.

Information, images, interviews, and media tickets can be arranged through Michael Eustice at Theatre Bugs at michael@theatrebugs.com.au or at the website kobugstheatrecompany.com on 0404 595 240.

Issued by Koala Life and Theatre Bugs